



# Danbury Park Community Primary School

*Be wise, be happy, belong!*

## Newsletter

Website: [www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk](http://www.danburypark.essex.sch.uk)

**29<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Reading Awards

#### Congratulations to

**Caleb H – Reading Challenge** **Rosie M – Ruby**

*Reading certificates will be presented in assemblies and in class throughout this term.*

### Weekly News

This year is the Essex Year of Number and as a school we will be participating in a range of events and activities to highlight this important part of the curriculum. This term we are again running the Key Stage 2 Athletics Challenge to encourage the children to make full use of the Athletics package and to practise their mathematical skills and knowledge in a fun way.

Each week we will announce which class and which child has clocked up the most hours of use. At the end of the term, we announce the winning class and the children get to choose a special treat or activity as a reward.

Last week's winners were:

**Class Budgerigar with 14 hrs 47 mins**

**Ted R in Class Budgerigar**

This week's winners were:

**Class Eider with a massive 24 hours and 31 minutes**

**Stanley F-K in Class Eider**

Well done and keep up the good work!

Families of children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 should have received an invitation this week to join us for a special Autumn and Harvest Celebration. Space in the hall is always tight when we have special events so building on the success of last year, we have again split the audience for the performances. Please take time to read the letter as there is important information about places and bringing food and drink into school which we need parents to follow.

Next Wednesday is school photo day and the children have their photographs taken as individuals and also in sibling groups. If you wish to include a pre-school child in this, then you are welcome to come to school at 8.20am. However, we have a tight schedule to follow so we are sorry but any late comers after 8.45am will be turned away.

## Reports from the Year 6 Visit to the Imperial War Museum

### Year 6 Visit to the Imperial War Museum



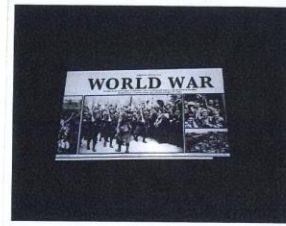
On Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> September, Year 6 went to visit the Imperial War Museum in London. We did this trip in order to research more about World War 1 in preparation for our Remembrance Remembrance Assembly. The museum was inhabited by many fascinating objects and all of them have experienced war...

#### Video Documentary

I was in group A and so we started with an activity - someone called Hannah explained that we needed to create documentaries. We were also given equipment: a clapper board, phone (to film with) and a lanyard ID. Since we had to be in groups of 3, I went with Zach and Marshall. We focused on filming guns, tanks and

bombs as Zach had many knowledge on them already. I enjoyed making mini documentaries - it was good fun!

#### Exploring the World War 1 exhibits



An example of a newspaper about WW1

The World War 1 exhibits were very interesting. I enjoyed looking at them all (particularly the interactive ones). The first thing that really caught my eye ~~was~~ were the projected newspapers as they showed the newspapers leading up to the War in Britain but not actually when the war was happening which made me think about what life was ~~like~~ just like just before the war. My favourite exhibit though was the life-like trenches because it felt like I was in a real trench (just a lot cleaner) and I could experience how painful it was for the soldiers to be in there most of their time.

#### Exploring the World War 2 exhibits



The eagle taken off the Reichstag

After lunch, we went to explore the amazing artefacts in the World War 2 exhibits. Although my group spent more time gazing at the artefacts in World War 1, the exhibits in World War 2 were still eye-catching. The first thing I saw was something that actually did not happen until the war ended. It was a large piece



piece of text explaining 'The Shadow of the Bomb'.

This phrase is used to mean when two atomic bombs (created by America) destroyed two Japanese cities: Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This devastation shocked the world (and me) so much that atomic bombs were never used again. Some people even think that those atomic bombs stopped World War 2. I was shocked that it destroyed two cities because cities are quite big and it would only take one bomb to destroy one city. I also feel sorry for all of the people who lived in Hiroshima and Nagasaki because just as the war is going to end, most of them are killed and the remaining injured. In the WW2 exhibits I also saw many submarines such as Old Fred and Midget which made me think that WW2 was more naval than WW1. The last thing I saw was an eagle taken off the Reichstag (the German government building). It made me think about who would be so brave to take it and if they got caught.

#### Conclusion

Overall I enjoyed this trip and I feel as if I know a lot about both World Wars and I am prepared for the assembly. If I ever get the opportunity to go to this museum I would definitely take it - it was an enjoyable experience.

## Imperial War Museum



On Monday 25th September 2023 the year 6s went to the Imperial War Museum in preparation for our special remembrance ~~museum~~ assembly. We learnt lots so now we have a bit more research on WW1 and 2.

A lady called Hannah sorted out our equipment - we were told to make mini documentary. We were given a phone for recording, a clapper board to start and end the video, and a lanyard ID. We went into groups of 3. My group focused on the impact of the war. We talked about different types

of guns, the impact of the amount of gas, an important man called Lord Kitchener, and how important it was to wear a gas mask. We took turns to talk, film and do the clapper board.



After the documentary, we had a closer look at other places in the museum about WW1. We saw: projected soldiers, games about the war, a poisonous glove shrunk by gas, a big screen with a video about WW1 and gas masks. Then, we had a look at the realistic trench and pretended to be soldiers and hide inside it. We learnt that if the soldiers were being attacked, they would hide in the trench and be hidden.

After lunch, we got to go more freely and look at things that we haven't seen yet/not to do with



Gas Masks

WW1 or WW2. We looked at some of the other artifacts and we saw a metal shelter called an Air-warden shelter. It was a strong shelter that people went into when people came to attack or if there was a bomb. If a bomb exploded onto it then it wouldn't break, it would just dent. It would be so scary if I was in there though, never knowing when you can come out. Then, we went on to look for another interesting artifact before we saw a submarine. The submarine was called 'Old Fred'. It was from WW2 because sometimes people shot torpedos at other submarines/ships/boats.



Planes from WW1 and WW2

My great-grandad, Wilfred Sizer, had his picture in this museum. We tried to find it in the WW2 section but could not. He was important in WW2 because he drove the plane and was a wing-commander. Overall, I had a good time at the Imperial War Museum and learnt lots for our special remembrance assembly.

## Talented and Thoughtful Children



Florence (class F) and Alfred (class J) competed in their first ever nuclear mud race at the weekend!

They both tried to work hard together and persevered to complete the course- even though they were extremely muddy and absolutely freezing!

We also know that seventeen more children from DP ran in the Nuclear Rookies race near Brentwood. Parents tell us that they all had a great time going over the obstacles and got very muddy in doing so! Age 9 and overs ran 3km and under 9's ran 1.5km. Group photo to follow.

Well done!

Whilst we enjoy seeing the photos of our fantastic children participating in activities and events outside school, we must ask that photos do not contain any other children or adults without their express permission. If parents are submitting a group photo, all parents should e-mail the office to give permission for the photo to be used.

## Essex County Council SEND Roadshow

Essex County Council, alongside Essex Family Forum and The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information Advice and Support Services will be hosting free, Roadshows in October and November. These events will feature representatives from health, education, social care, and other local charities and support groups.

Date: 18 October 2023

Time: 9.00am to 12.30pm

Location: Witham town hall, Witham

Date: 1 November 2023

Time: 9.00am to 12.30pm

Location: Budworth Hall, Ongar

Date: 2 November 2023

Time: 9.00am to 12.30pm

Location: Ingatestone Community Centre, Ingatestone

This is a chance for parents/carers/families to come along and ask any questions about special educational needs and disabilities.

For more information and details on the event please visit the [Essex County Council SEND website](#).

## Food in School

We would like to remind parents that we are a nut-free school. We have staff and children with potentially fatal allergies so the children must not bring in any food containing **NUTS**.

EYFS and KS1 children do not bring in any tuck for break times as they are provided with free fruit from the government. The children in KS2 may bring in a piece of fruit or vegetables from Mondays through to Thursday. On Fridays we invite the children to bring in a treat in the form of crackers or a cereal bar. However, we do not allow crisps or chocolate and sweets. We have the KS2 tuck shop that runs every day and sells a variety of fruit and vegetables.



## 2023 Harvest Collection

This harvest we are again pleased to be able to support local people by collecting tinned, dried food and provisions for the Chelmsford foodbank. The foodbank provides short term emergency food to people in crisis. Food is given as an intervention strategy which allows care professionals, such as Housing Support Officers, CAB advisers, Social Services, doctors etc, time to put longer term measures in place. Details of the special Harvest project is available at <https://youtu.be/45hET2z2S04>

At the foodbank centre people also have access to information about other services and support organisations. All food given out by the foodbank is donated by generous members of the public. Everyday people experience crisis in our community for a variety of reasons from redundancy to ill health to an unexpected bill on a low income. Some simply struggle to make ends meet.

## Harvest Shopping List

Small jars coffee Tea bags—40 and 80s UHT fruit juice UHT milk Fruit squash Biscuit packets and crisps Savoury biscuits and cereal bars Jams, spreads and preserves Breakfast cereal	Rice—dry Instant mashed potato Cup soups Pasta sauce Tins of meat meals—eg chicken/ beef in sauce/ curry Tinned spaghetti Tinned fish Tinned potatoes Tinned tomatoes Pulses Tinned vegetables Tinned soup	Milk—non dairy Powdered custard Tinned fruit Sponge puddings Tinned custard  Toilet rolls Washing up liquid Laundry pods/tabs (only) Male and female toiletries  <b>We have sufficient pasta and baked beans</b>
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We want to help our local foodbank feed people in need. Please join with us by donating food so that those less fortunate don't go hungry.

N.B Please make sure all food is packaged, in date and undamaged. Thank you!

All donations of food can be brought into school between **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Sept and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023**.

***If you have a car and are able to volunteer to deliver the food to Chelmsford, please let the office know.***

Thank you

## Attendance

Part of our safeguarding duties and procedures is ensuring that when children are absent from school, we know where they are and that they are safe. Please remember to inform school by **9.20am each day** if your child is absent from school and to follow this up with a written letter of explanation on their return. If we do not know where your child is, we are required to use the emergency contact numbers you have given to school. So, it is vitally important that if you change your phone numbers, or your family and friends do, that you inform us.

The government, local authority and school take attendance seriously and school is required to follow up on irregular attendance and prolonged absences and also for unauthorised absences, so please do not be offended when we ask for proof of doctors' and dentists' appointment or ask for details of holiday bookings or delayed flights or sickness on return after school holidays. The government is also asking parents to send their children into school with mild illnesses and we would, of course, contact you should their condition deteriorate.

## Important information - Term time holidays

Improving school attendance is a key priority for all schools across Essex. Where families choose to take a family holiday during term time, this can detrimentally impact a pupil's progress and can prevent them from fulfilling their true academic potential. Our school attendance policy, available via our school website, clearly sets out the process that parents should follow if they wish to apply for leave during term time. Please note that applications should only be made, if you feel that there are exceptional circumstances which mean that the leave cannot be taken during the school holidays.

**We would ask all parents to note that, where families choose to go on holiday during term time and the absences are coded as unauthorised, Essex County Council may not issue penalty notices and may instead proceed to prosecution and place the case directly before the Magistrates for their consideration in court.** If found guilty by the Magistrates, parents could face a fine of up to £2,500 and/or 3 months imprisonment.

## Secondary School Places for September 2024

The application period for Year 7 entry in September 2024 opens this week and parents of Year 6 children who live in Essex can apply for a secondary school place on the Essex Education Portal on their website. Parents have until **31<sup>st</sup> October** to submit an application.

Parents who live in other Local Authority areas such as Southend or Thurrock must apply to their own Local Authority, but they can name Essex schools on the application.

Parents of children with an EHCP should not apply (except for grammar schools); their transfers will be arranged by the SEND Ops Team.

For parents who cannot apply online or who prefer to apply on paper, ECC have a paper application form that can be printed from the ECC website: [Admissions booklets, policies and forms: Application forms | Essex County Council](#) or they can request from ECC that one to be posted to them.

Full information about applying is on the ECC website: [Secondary school places | Essex County Council](#)

## Safeguarding

At Danbury Park School we take e-safety seriously. At the beginning of every school year, as part of our computing curriculum, our pupils are taught about E-safety. This is then re-visited every term to reinforce the message of personal safety. The elements of computing are embedded across all subjects in the curriculum and our pupils regularly use the internet as part of their learning. In school, we use a filtering system to prevent children accessing inappropriate sites.

Over the past years we have also organised parent information workshops to help families keep abreast of the new technology with the aim of helping keep the children safe at home.

Our top tips are:

- 🔒 Set up your computer in a shared area at home so that you can see the sites your children are accessing;
- 🔒 Set your security levels so that you can limit access to sites and time spent on electronic devices;
- 🔒 Talk to your child about what they are doing online;
- 🔒 Talk to your child about keeping their personal information private.

There are some excellent resources available and we would like to suggest the following sites which provide more detailed information:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/parentsguide/>  
[http://old.kidsmart.org.uk/downloads/cn\\_parentleafletV2.pdf](http://old.kidsmart.org.uk/downloads/cn_parentleafletV2.pdf)

We would also recommend that parents sign up for the free services of the 2 Johns. For those new to the school the 2 Johns are ex-police officers with a wealth of experience who offer information and training to schools, children, staff and parents. They last visited us in the Summer term and held workshops for children, staff, governors and parents. In the meantime, please check out their pages and follow them on *facebook*, as they issue timely alerts about new trends:

<https://esafetytraining.org/>

**Let's work together to keep the children safe!**

### Child and Family Counselling Services

Parents are now able to access direct support for their child by referring them into the safe hands of our Child and Family Counselling Services (CFCS). We have a team of highly experienced Counsellors, Specialist Child and Adolescent Counsellors and Play Therapists available within the counselling team who work in our specially adapted therapy rooms.

We offer support to children, young people and parents through talking, play and art therapy.

CFCS provides therapy to children, young people and families. We support many different issues such as:

- Self-harm
- Identity
- Anxiety
- Bullying
- Bereavement
- Parental separation and family issues or conflict.

The pathway is overseen by our Head of Child and Family Counselling Services, who is supported by a team that are both passionate about and dedicated to the wellbeing of children and young people. The team has achieved very positive and reparative outcomes for children and families.

#### What can you expect?

After an initial contact, we will arrange an assessment to explore the issues your child may be experiencing and will then identify which model best supports the difficulty your child may be facing.

#### Who do you contact?

If you are worried about your child and would like to talk to us further, please either email Catherine cmunns@bccs.org.uk or call on 07792 732206 and we will be pleased to help.

Take a moment to read about the experience a parent shared with us:

*I had contacted a number of professional services to assist me in helping my daughter. At the suggestion of my daughter's school a referral was made to BCCS and it was then that I met one of their counsellors. After months of unanswered questions and "hitting brick walls" I finally had answers, structure and a profound understanding of how a small little girl's mind works. For me, there has been nothing so worrying as watching your child struggle and the BCCS counsellor's help has enabled me to help her for which I will be forever grateful.*



[www.bccs.org.uk](http://www.bccs.org.uk)

[headoffice@bccs.org.uk](mailto:headoffice@bccs.org.uk)

BCCS, 133 High Street, Billericay, Essex, CM12 9AB  
Brentwood Catholic Children's Society - Registered Charity Number: 1000661



## Notification and Reminders

**School Gateway** – Thank you to all the parents who have now joined the new online payment system. Please ensure that you download the app as per the letter sent out at the end of last term. Payments for school dinners and trips need to be made via this app. Please note that we are now well on our way to being a cashless school as part of *Our World, Our Future* project. By having the online system, staff need to make fewer journeys by car to the bank, thus reducing emissions and we are using less paper.

**Measles** – The Primary Health Care Trust has asked us to remind parents about the measles vaccine, which is available through GP surgeries. They are anxious to vaccinate all children to prevent an outbreak of a potentially dangerous disease.

**Ink Pens** – We have now moved away from using fountain pens in the classroom and will going forward encourage the children to use Berol Writing Pens. These will be provided by the school.

**Free School Meals** – Due to Covid-19 we understand that your circumstances may have changed or may change in the near future and you may now be eligible for free school meals. To check eligibility please contact Essex County Council on 0345 603 2200 or for more information and online application go to <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

This is the eligibility criteria ECC use:



### Entitlement and what is required

The Government set the criteria for free school meal entitlement. To be entitled, you need to receive:

- Universal Credit with an annual income of £7,400 or less
- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment & Support Allowance
- Pension Guarantee Credit
- Child Tax Credit (But not working tax credit) with an annual income of less than £16,190
- Parents with Asylum Seeker status who receive support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit 'Run-on' – the payment someone may receive for a further 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Please apply on the link above

### Letters sent out this week:

-  Parents consultation letter
-  EYFS & KS1 Harvest and Autumn Celebration



## Owl's Barn School Meals

### Week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023

**Week 2**

**Fresh bread and milk available daily**

<b>Monday</b>	Fillet of Fish or (V) Crispy Vegan Quorn Dippers	Creamy Mash Potato  Sweetcorn  Cucumber	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b> Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Chocolate Brownie  Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Tuesday</b>	Homemade Pasta Bolognaise or (V) Vegan Mince Bolognaise	Homemade Bread  Peas, Cauliflower  Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese Baked Beans Tuna Mayo	Apple Crumble and Custard Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>All Day Breakfast;</b> Chipolata Sausage, Bacon and Egg, (V) Vegan Sausage, Egg and Hash Brown	Hash Brown Baked Beans Fresh Tomatoes Peas Green Salad	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b> Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Jelly and Fruit Fresh Fruit Fresh Yoghurt
<b>Thursday</b>	Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza or (V) Vegetable Nuggets	White/Wholegrain Pasta  Sweetcorn  Green Salad	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling Cheese Baked Beans Tuna Mayo	Chocolate Crispy Cake Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Friday</b>	Beef Burger in a roll or (V) Cheesy Stack Wrap	Chips  Peas  Cucumber	<b>Key Stage 2 only</b> Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Ice Cream Roll Fresh Fruit Fruit Yoghurt

### SCHOOL DINNERS

#### COSTS FOR AUTUMN TERM 2023

**1st Half Term: 6<sup>th</sup> September – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 = 32 days at £2.70 = £86.40**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term: 30<sup>th</sup> October – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 = 38 days at £2.70 = £102.60**

**Total for Autumn Term = £189.00**

**Please note that all school meals should be paid for in advance via School Gateway.**

**Dates for the Diary**  
**Week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023**

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>**

All day	Class Dove to visit West Stow
All day	Year 6 Bikeability

**Tues 3<sup>rd</sup>**

All day	Year 6 Bikeability
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**Weds 4<sup>th</sup>**

Am	Individual School Photos
2.55pm	Let's Present in classes

**Thurs 5<sup>th</sup>**

All day	Class Budgerigar to visit Audley End
All day	Year 6 Bikeability
6.30pm	Governors' Pay Committee Meeting
7.00pm	Governors' Personnel Committee Meeting

**Fri 6<sup>th</sup>**

All day	Year 6 Bikeability
9.00am	Harvest donation collection
5.30pm -	DPSA Disco KS1 - <b>no EYFS children this term</b>
6.30pm	
7.00pm -	DPSA Disco KS2
8.15pm	

Yours sincerely,

Carol Gooding,  
Headteacher

# Danbury Park Community Primary School

## Dates for Autumn Term 2023

Date	Time	Event
<b>October</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup>	All day	Class Dove to visit West Stow
		Year 6 Bikeability
3 <sup>rd</sup>		Year 6 Bikeability
4 <sup>th</sup>		Individual School Photos
5 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Class B to Audley End
		Year 6 Bikeability
	6.30pm 7.00pm	Governors' Pay Committee meeting Governors' Personnel Committee meeting
6 <sup>th</sup>		Year 6 Bikeability
	9.00am	Deadline for bringing in Harvest donations
	5.30pm 7.15pm	DPSA School Disco KS1 DPSA School Disco KS2
9 <sup>th</sup>		Year 6 Bikeability
10 <sup>th</sup>		Year 6 Bikeability
11 <sup>th</sup>	2.45pm	Harvest Assembly to parents of children in J & H (watched by classes A & B)
12 <sup>th</sup>	2.45pm	Harvest Assembly to parents of children in G & F (watched by classes E, D & C)
	Tbc	DPSA AGM
	3.40 – 6.10pm	Parent Consultations – all classes
18 <sup>th</sup>	Am	Exotic Pets visitors - Classes J and H
19 <sup>th</sup>	3.40 – 6.10pm	Parent Consultations – all classes
20 <sup>th</sup>		School closed for staff training
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Half-term break</b>
<b>November</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.00pm	Governors' Resources Committee meeting with site walk at 6.30pm
3 <sup>rd</sup>		Flu Immunisation
	2.45pm	Class Budgerigar Assembly
8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 & 10.30am	Prospective parent tours
10 <sup>th</sup>	2.45pm	Year 6 Remembrance Assembly to parents and school
14 <sup>th</sup>	1.45pm	Tour for prospective parents
15 <sup>th</sup>	Am	Pre-school activity morning
17 <sup>th</sup>		Children in Need
	2.45pm	Class Cuckoo Assembly
21 <sup>st</sup>	2.45pm	Class Eider Assembly
22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30am	Tour for prospective parents
24 <sup>th</sup>	2.45pm	Class Dove Assembly
Week beg 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov		Whole School Assessment Week
<b>December</b>		

2 <sup>nd</sup>	12.00 – 2.00pm	DPSA Christmas Fayre -tbc
12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am & 2.15pm tbc	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Play
13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am & 1.45pm tbc	KS2 Christmas Play
14 <sup>th</sup>	12.00pm	Christmas Dinner
20 <sup>th</sup>	Pm	Christmas Parties
		<b>End of Term</b>

**To be arranged/confirmed**

- Welcome to Year 3 meeting for parents
- EYFS Stay and Play